

Serial No.: 09/746,199
Art Unit: 1324
Amendment dated June 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action March 26, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 2, line 22 with the following paragraph:

~~The present invention provides an identification module for one or more passive components in a system. The~~ An identification module is used for storing information relating to ~~[[the]]~~ a passive component~~[[s]]~~ in a system. By storing component information relating to a passive component in a non-volatile memory module, such as a serial electrically erasable programmable read-only memory module, and incorporating the module into a sub-system having the passive component, the component information may be obtained at any time. This can reduce the time required to identify specifications of, and verify operation of, the passive components of a system. The probability of human error may also be reduced.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 3, line 6 of the specification as filed with the following paragraph:

According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a sub-system including at least one passive component; and an identification module for storing component information relating to the at least one passive component; a tester interconnected with the at least one passive component; and a processor interconnected with the identification module and the tester. Using the tester, the processor monitors the passive component to determine whether a performance characteristic is within an acceptable tolerance as specified by the component information stored in the identification module.

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Please replace the paragraph starting at page 3, line 10 of the specification as filed with the following paragraph:

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided apparatus for monitoring a passive component, comprising: a non-volatile memory storing specifications for a passive component; a tester for detecting signals at an input and output of said passive component; and a processor operatively associated with said non-volatile memory and said tester for monitoring proper whether a performance characteristic of said passive component as detected by said tester is within an acceptable tolerance as specified by said specifications stored in said non-volatile memory.